

This is a response to the Restriction Requirement mailed January 22, 2008. In response, Applicant elects for Prosecution GROUP III, Claims 16 - 20, without prejudice.

With respect to anchor species, Applicant elects Species A, without prejudice.

Applicant respectfully traverses the election between species of tie assembly. A single strap assembly could have a pin-end such as Fig. 17 at one end and a loop end such as Fig. 20 at the other end. Indeed, anchor Species A is designed to handle both of these. Should this restriction be maintained, Applicant would elect the pin end Species D, without prejudice.

February 22, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David C. Brezina". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

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